[English]

Revenue earned from Freight Traffic

3741. SHRI N.N. KRISHNADAS :
SHRI SUDHIR GIRI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the target fixed for increasing the Railways' revenue earning from freight traffic for the current financial year;

(b) whether the target has been achieved during the last three months (up to June, 1997);

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the reasons behind giving concessional freight charges to private traders?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The target for revenue earning freight traffic has been kept at Rs. 19322 cr. in B.E. 1997-98.

(b) and (c) Yes Sir. The Railways have exceeded the target of Rs. 4541.58 cr. set for the quarter ending June, 1997 by Rs. 167.31 cr.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Concessions in freight charges are given to private traders by way of incentive for them to offer more traffic to rail and thereby to increase the Railway earnings.

[Translation]

Appointment on Deputation Basis

3742. SHRI RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the rules laid down for the appointment of employees and officers in the vigilance department of Railways on deputation;

(b) the maximum tenure of deputation period of employees and officers in the vigilance department;

(c) whether the Government have reviewed the deputation period of employees and officers serving for long period in the vigilance department;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) The broad criteria for induction of an officer or an inspector to Vigilance Organisation is as under :

A person should have

(i) Adequate field experience.

(ii) Good track record.

(iii) Proven integrity beyond doubt.

(iv) No vigilance history.

(v) Good reputation.

All officers inducted to Vigilance Organisation are personnel selected by the Chief Vigilance Officer of the Ministry based on recommendation of CVO and GM of the Zonal Railways/PUs.

For Vigilance Inspectors on Zonal Railways screening of applications based on the broad criteria as mentioned is done at the level of Chief Vigilance Officer(CVO) of the Zonal Railway and a panel is formed out of the same. For filling up of the posts of Investigating Inspectors in the Board, applications are called for from suitable persons of different disciplines through CVOs of the Zonal Railways. Those recommended by the CVOs of the Zonal Railway are subjected to a written test-cum-interview by a selection committee.

(b) TENURE :

(i) The tenure of Vigilance Officers on Zonal Railways is 3 years. The extension beyond 3 years requires period approval of Railway Board. The normal tenure of officers working in Railway Board is, however, 5 years.

(ii) In case of Vigilance Inspectors, the normal tenure is 4 years extendible to 6 years by GMs of Railways and Production units. Extension beyond 6 years under certain specified conditions requires period approval from Railway Board.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) As a result of review, during last one year, 38 officers and 44 inspectors of Vigilance Organisation have been changed. Extension has been granted beyond the normal tenure to 64 Inspectors and 1 Officer.

(e) All efforts are made to repatriate the Inspectors on completion of their tenure by arranging selections. During last 1 year, 37 selections were conducted in which 86 Inspectors were empanelled. 10 selections are in process.

[English]

Clearance of CRL Project

3743. SHRI T. GOVINDAN : Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have given final clearance to Cochin Refinery Ltd. project as requested by the Kerala Government and the Kerala State Electricity Board;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) The Union Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has accorded Stage - I Clearance to Cochin Refineries Ltd. for